

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 38-41, 44-46, 48-51, 54-56, 58-61, 64-66, and 68-73 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,987,945 to Corn et al. ("*Corn*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,907,831 to Lotvin et al. ("*Lotvin*") and further in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0177109 to Robinson et al. ("*Robinson*"). The Examiner also rejected claims 47, 57, and 67 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0032790 to Linderman ("*Linderman*").

Claims 38-41, 44-51, 54-61, and 64-73 are pending.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 38-41, 44-46, 48-51, 54-56, 58-61, 64-66, and 68-73 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson*.

Independent claim 38 recites a method for providing access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system, the method including:

transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course.

Combinations of *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* fail to teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 38.

Corn discloses electronic device 16 accessing a web page, which includes an Applet 14, from web server 4. *Corn*, col. 11, lines 30-35. Applet 14 tracks a length of time that a user of electronic device 16 spends on the web page. *Corn*, col. 11, lines 30-35.

Corn's Applet 14 does teach or suggest the claimed "track command" at least because *Corn* does not teach or suggest "transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course," as recited in claim 38 (emphasis added). *Corn's* Applet 14 is not sent to any "external system," but is instead sent to electronic device 16.

The Examiner's modification to *Corn* to include the third party content provider of *Lotvin* also does not remedy these deficiencies. In this alleged combination, *Corn's* web pages 8, 10, and 12 (and their corresponding Applets 14) would reside on *Lotvin's* external third party content provider as the claimed "external system." See *Lotvin*, Figure 14, items 921 and 922. See *also* Office Action at page 4.

But this alleged combination would still not teach or suggest "transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course," as recited in claim 38 (emphasis added). Instead, *Corn's* Applet 14 would still be transmitted to electronic device 16 to track the amount of time a user spent viewing the content, and would not be transmitted to any "external system." *Corn*, col. 3, lines 34-44.

Robinson fails to remedy the deficiencies of *Corn* and *Lotvin*. *Robinson* discloses a user requesting third-party content via eChalk. *Robinson*, ¶ [0111]. eChalk then forwards the request to third-party educational content provider. *Robinson*, ¶ [0112].

Robinson's forwarding of a content request from eChalk to the third-party educational content provider does not teach or suggest "transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least

one selected course,” as recited in claim 38, at least because *Robinson’s* content request is not a “track command.”

For at least these reasons, combinations of *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* fail to teach or suggest independent claim 38. Independent claims 48, 58, and 68-70, while of different scope than claim 38, distinguish over *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* for reasons similar to claim 38. Claims 39-41, 44-46, 49-51, 54-56, 59-61, 64-66, and 71-73 distinguish over *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* at least due to their dependence from one of the independent claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 47, 57, and 67 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson*, in view of *Linderman*.

Claims 47, 57, and 67 depend from independent claims 38, 48, and 58, respectively, and include all recitations therein. As discussed previously *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* fail to teach or suggest claims 48, 58, and 68. *Linderman* fails to cure the deficiencies of *Corn*, *Lotvin*, and *Robinson* by also failing to teach or suggest the above-identified recitations of claim 38, and similar recitations of claims 48 and 58.

Accordingly, combinations of *Corn*, *Lotvin*, *Robinson*, and *Linderman* fail to teach or suggest any of claims 47, 57, and 67

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

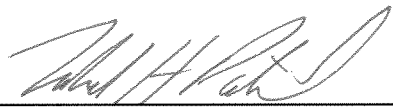
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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